

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 SAM-01 SR-02 ORM-01 ABF-01

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S/S - MR. EALUM

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P R 222329Z APR 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 092850

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, UNRWA, XF, UK, FR, EG

SUBJECT: ARAB FUNDING FOR UNRWA

1. BRITISH EMBASSY OFFICER INFORMED DEPT APRIL 18 THAT
BRITISH EMBASSY CAIRO WOULD APPROACH GOE IN SUPPORT OF
EFFORT OBTAIN MORE FUNDS FOR UNRWA FROM ARAB GOVERNMENTS
DURING MEETING OF ARAB LEAGUE MINISTERS IN CAIRO WEEK OF
APRIL 21. BRITISH SAID FRENCH HAVE AGREED APPROACH GOE
ALSO AND ASKED THAT USG DO SO AS WELL. THOUGH WE ARE NOT
PREPARED URGE SPECIFIC ACTION ON GOE IN THIS MATTER IN
PURELY ARAB CONTEXT OF ARAB LEAGUE, WE AGREE IT WOULD BE
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APPROPRIATE FOR USG TO INFORM GOE OF OUR CONCERN FOR UNRWA

AT THIS DIFFICULT TIME. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY OFFICER
SHOULD SEE RESPONSIBLE GOE OFFICIAL AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY
TO ASSURE HE AWARE OF SPECIAL EFFORT USG HAS MADE THIS YEAR
TO HELP MEET UNRWA'S PLIGHT.

2. USG IS CONCERNED THAT UNRWA IS FACING ITS MOST MASSIVE
DEFICIT EVER, SOME DOLS. 46 MILLION THIS YEAR. USG GAVE
DOLS 4.2 MILLION ABOVE ITS REGULAR DOLS 23.2 MILLION CON-
TRIBUTION IN 1974 AND DOLS 10 MILLION ADDITIONAL IN 1975.
HOWEVER, WE UNDERSTAND THAT UNRWA WILL MAKE SUBSTANTIAL CUTS
IN SERVICES STARTING MAY 1 UNLESS MORE MONEY IS FORTHCOMING
IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. WE WISH TO HEAR GOE VIEWS ON

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CONSEQUENCES OF MAJOR REDUCTIONS IN UNRWA SERVICES AND
SHARE OUR CONCERN THAT IF THEY ARE CARRIED OUT AS PLANNED,
THEY WILL HAVE A DESTABILIZING EFFECT. ASSURE GOE WE WILL
CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF UNRWA'S COMMISSIONER
GENERAL AND OF THE SYG TO FIND ADDITIONAL FUNDING AND WE
ARE AWARE OF ARAB EFFORTS TO ASSIST. WE HOPE, AS WE ARE
SURE GOE DOES AS WELL, THAT THE VARIOUS EFFORTS NOW IN
PROGRESS TO HELP UNRWA WILL SUCCEED. KISSINGER

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